(c) and (d) In order to curb smuggling and other anti-India activities from across the border, Government has decided to construct fencing with flood lighting on raised embankment, border roads, link road and Border Observation Posts (BOPs). This project would be completed by March, 2004.

Government has also decided to deploy six floating BOPs in the Creek areas of Gujarat Sector to check infiltration, and smuggling activities through the Creek area.

Revision of family pension

1181. MISS FRIDA TOPNO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have revised the special family pension to the families of army personnel who had retired prior to 1975;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reason for this inordinate delay; and

(d) by when Government would implement the revised special family pension?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) The Government orders for consolidating pension of all pre-1.1.1996 (including pre-1975) pensioners/family pensioners, including special family pensioners of Armerd Forces, were issued on 24.11.1997. The pension disbursing authorities were authorised to disburse arrears. A further order was issued on 14.3.2000, providing that family pension/ special family pension of pre-1.1.1996 family pensioners should not be less than 30% of the minimum pay of the revised scale, as introduced w.e.f. 1.1.1996 for the rank, last held by the concerned Service personnel.

(c) and (d) Do not arise in view of the reply to parts (a) and (b) above.

Increase in activities of Coast Guard

1182. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been manifold increase in the area of activities and responsibilities of the Coast Guard after Kargil;

(b) if so, the reason why its budgetary allocation has not been increased by a single paise; and

(c) the additional budget allocation proposed for Coast Guard for more men and machines required for patrolling the coast line to thwart Pak-activity and to guard against incursions?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) In the post Kargil scenario, the Coast Guard have deployed more ships and aircraft for intensive surveillance over the area of its responsibility to protect the maritime interest of the country.

(b) The budgetary allocations for Coast Guard have been increased during the last three years as would be evident from the following:—

Year	Actual Expenditure / RE
1998-1999	Rs. 265.9 crores
1999-2000	Rs. 343.6 crores
2000-2001	Rs. 415.0 crores (RE)

(c) The Coast Guard Development Plan for 2002—2007 will cater for induction of additional manpower, ships, aircraft and for setting up new Coast Guard stations for keeping constant vigil on the coast and preventing intrusions as also anti-national activities.

Induction of Agni-II

1183. SHRI PREM CHAND GUPTA:
SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per the recent statement of the Scientific Advisor to the Defence Minister, the Agni-II is likely to be inducted into the Armed Forces by the end of 2001;

(b) whether this is a major strategic initiative which will add a completely new dimension to the balance of power in the region raising the level of confrontation to an unknown level of threat; and

(c) if so, what is Government's policy and strategy on this development and level of preparedness for it?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) With the second launch of Agni-II on 17th January, the stage of operationalisation has been achieved. The Government has decided to induct the system based on our security needs. Government policy and strategy on